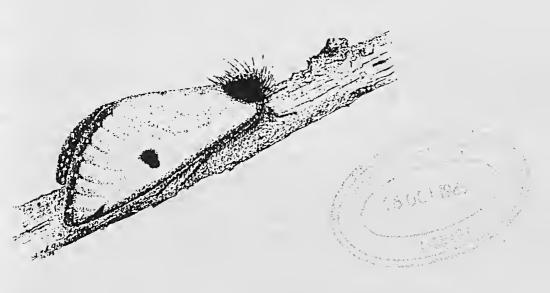
VOL.19 N°. 5



JUNE 1989

# **VICTORIAN ENTOMOLOGIST**



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BULLETIN of

The ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY of VICTORIA



# the ENTUMOLOGICAL SOCIETY of VICTORIA (Inc.)

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Any person with an interest in entomology shall be elligible for Ordinary Membership. Members of the Society include professional, amateur and student entomologists, all of whom recieve the Society's News Bulletin, the Victorian Entomologist.

# **OBJECTIVES**

The aims of the Society are:

- (a) to stimulate the scientific study and discussion of all aspects of entomology,
- (b) to gather, disseminate and record knowledge of all identifiable Australian insect species,
- (c) to compile a comprehensive list of all Victorian insect species
- (d) to bring together in a congenial but scientific atmosphere all persons interested in entomology.

# MEETINGS

The Society's meetings areheld at Clunies Ross House, National Science Centre, 191 Royal Parade, Parkville, Victoria, at 8 pm on the third Friday of even months, with the possible exception of the December meeting which may be held earlier. Lectures by guest speakers or members are a feature of many meetings at which there is ample opportunity for informal discussion between members with similar interests. Forums are also conducted by members on their own particular interest so that others may participate in discussions.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Associate Member......\$ 2.00 (No Magazine)

Ordinary Member.......\$10.00 Country Member .......\$ 8.00 (100 km + from GPO) Student Member .......\$ 5.00

No additional fee is payable for overseas posting by surface mail of the news bulletin. Associate Members, resident at the same address as, and being immediate relatives of an ordinary Member, dont automatically recieve the Society's publications but in all other respects rank as ordinary Members.

# MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING, AUGUST 18 1989

The President opened the meeting at 8.05 pm.

Apologies: J.Field, D.& J.Hoimes, T.New.

Present: G.&J.Burns, John Burns, P.Carwardine, K.Clark, M.& P.Coupar, D.Crosby, K.& L.Dunn, R.Field, M.Hunting, P.Keily, S.Smith, R.Vagi, K.Waiker, J.Wertz.

The President then introduced the three speakers for the night.

(1) Mike & Pat Coupar showed a series of superb photographs of

moths with their iarvae.

(2) John Burns presented a number of records of butterflies in the Meibourne area.

(3) Ross Field gave a talk on vespld wasps, "The European wasp and its native counterparts".

David Crosby proposed a vote of thanks to the speakers which was received with acciaim.

Treasurer's Report: G.Burns reported credit balances of \$2101.86 (General Account), \$1734.93 (Memorial Account) and \$437.35 (Junior Encouragement Fund). There are at present 88 financial members. Received (Crosby/Walker).

G.Burns moved that the subscription rates for next year should be

Ordinary Member \$14.00
Country Member \$10.00
Student Member \$7.00
Associate Member \$4.00
Institutes \$20.00

Seconded K.Waiker and carried unanimously .

Editor's Report: John Burns reported on the production of Voi.19(4). Some discussion took place on the mailing times for the Vic.Ent. as some members had not received their copies at the time of the meeting. It was suggested that it should be mailed on the Monday before the meeting at the latest or preferably the Friday before the meeting. Received (Walker/Fleid).

Excursions: P.Carwardine asked for suggestions for areas for possible Spring excursions. There are no plans for an excursion at present.

#### General Business:

- (a) Ken Clark showed a case of Queensland moths.
- (b) Ross Fleld showed a case of vespld wasps in illustration of his talk
- (c) Mike & Pat Coupar had some iiving specimens of moth larvae that had been shown in their task.
- (d) The President announced that the speaker at the next meeting on October 20th. Would be Philip Sutton speaking on the Fiora and Fauna Guarantee Act.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

The President, M.Hunting, opened the meeting at 8 pm.

Apologies: T. New, P. Kelly, R. Field.

Present: G. & Joy Burns, John Burns, D. Crosby, M. & P.

Coupar, K. Walker, B. Vardy.

Minutes: of the July Council Meeting (Vic. Ent. 19:57) were

adopted (Crosby/J. Burns).

Correspondence: AustraliuPost - advice on new postal rates.

Clunies Ross Conference Centre - advising of the

Society's bookings for 1990 meetings. Standards Australia - photocopy rates.

Acceptance (Joy Burns/John Burns)

464.89

Treasurer's Report:

89 financial members

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS AT 16th SEPTEMBER, 1989
General A/C
46

	404.09
Term Deposit	1500.00
Total	1964.89
J. C. Lesouef Memorial	Fund
Balance Pass Book	334.93
Investments	1400.00
	1004 00

Junior Encouragement Fund
Balance Pass Book
437.35

Term Deposit is due 29th September, 1989.

Editor's Report:

Need for articles from a greater number of

members.

Deadline for next issue is Monday, 25th September,

1989

Adopted (Joy Burns/Walker)

Excursions:

John Burns suggested three areas for future excursions: \* Watsons Creek, Christmas Hills; \* Sheppard Bush on the Dandenong

Creek, Glen Waverly;

\* Walk along the Mullum Mullum Creek.

Sunday, 22nd October, 1989 - The Society hold an excursion at Greens Bush, Mornington Peninsula.

Acceptance (John Burns/Crosby)

General Business: A letter from the Bowker International Serials Database concerning the publication listings of

our Society was discussed.

It was moved that the B. I. S. D. be allowed to list the Society in its publications for a trial period of twelve months.

Carried (Walker/Crosby)

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

# NOTES ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF SOME BUTTERFLIES IN SOUTH-WESTERN VICTORIA

By D. F. Croeby 74 Gippe Street, East Melbourne 3002.

The following notes cover results of collecting in the eouthern part of the western half of Victoria during recent eeaaone. Where epecimens have been bred, the foodplant ie shown in brackete.

#### Trapezites phigalioides Waterhouse

On 15 November 1987 I found freeh specimene flying with the two following species on the hill behind Caatlemaine. On the eame day I found this epecies to be common in the hills eouth of Chewton. At both sites there were many small Lomandra ep. plante and only male butterflies were present. I caught two very worn males on 12 December 1987 south of Elphinatone.

#### Trapezites phigalia phigalia (Hewitaon)

On 15 November 1987 I caught three worn males a short distance west of Castlemains and a few additional males on the hill behind the town.

#### Trapezites luteus luteus Weterhouse

Also on 15 November 1987 I found e strong colony of this epecies west of Castlemaine, with malea end femalee in good condition flying near a small apecies of Lomandra, probably filiformis. I noted a female lay an egg on one of the planta at about 50 mm above the ground. Further fresh epecimene were caught on the hill behind the town. This is an interesting record as the apecies is not common.

#### Dispar compacta (Butler)

I found this epecies plentiful during the first week of Harch 1989 near Portland; at Mt. Richmond (20 km NW of Portland), Cobboboonee forest (24 km NW of Portland) and in the Crawford River Regional Park (20 km E of Dartmoor).

#### Signeta flammeata (Butler)

Males and females were common during the first week of Merch 1989 in the area weet of Portland. They were at the summit of Mt. Richmond and at various sites in the Cobboboones forest at the same time.

#### Hesperilla idothea clara Waterhouse

I caught one female and one male, both worn, in the Cobboboonee forest on 2 and 3 March 1989 respectively. These were rather later then usual and may be a new record for the area.

#### Geitoneura klugii klugii (Guerin-Heneville)

Thie apeciea was racorded at Mt. Richmond, Cobboboonea forest and in the Lower Glenelg National Park (6 km N of Nelson) on 3 and 4 March 1989.

#### Heteronympha merope merope (Fab.)

The eame records as for the preceding species.

#### Heteronympha penelope maraia Tindale

From 2-6 March 1989 I found this speciee common at Mt. Richmond, Cobboboonee foreat, Crawford River Regional Park and Lower Glanelg National Park.

Oreixenica lathoniella herceus Waterhouse and Lyall Although I searched extensivaly for this apecies I found only one small colony, in the Cobboboonee forest, on 5 March 1989. The apecimene were very light in colour, similar to those found in the Grampiane and at Lorne.

#### Oreixenica kershawi kanunda Tindale

Thia apecies was found in the Cobboboonee foreet and at varioue eites along the Crawford River on 5 March 1989. At the latter it was very common.

#### Tisiphone abeona antoni Tindele

I caught two fresh malee at the eummit of Ht.Richmond on 3 Harch 1989 and saw several specimene along the Crawford River the following day.

### Paralucia pyrodiscus lucida Croeby

I found ona pupa on ona of aeveral small plante of <u>Bursaria Spinosa</u> naar Castlmaina on 15 Novamber 1987. The aite appeared promising but very restricted. There were no adults.

On 12 December there were several dozen adults on the wing and on 9 March 1988 there were no adults but I found three pupae. These pupae produced a male on 10 March and a famala on 21 March; the third pupa diad.

The colony of P.p.lucida appears to be the same one as that known in 1896. It is small in aiza and under preseura from overgrowing plants. The butterfly numbere are small and it should not be collected at present because the numbers noted in apring 1988 appeared to be much lower than anticipated. Ita location is significant in that it is between the Eltham and Kiata colonies and its age is indicative of the sedentary nature of the species.

and Ararat as probable  $\underline{H\cdot flavescens}$ . The two colonies at Ararat Feed on  $\underline{G\cdot radula}$  but the colony at Nelson Feeds on  $\underline{G\cdot filum}$ .

<u>Hesperilla chrysotricha cyclospila</u> (Meyrick and Lower) This species is often found with the preceding species, feeding on several apeciea of <u>Gahnia</u>. I have found it st the following sites:

Curdies Inlet, Peterborough (G.filum);
Rossbridge (G.filum);
6 km N of Willaura (G.filum);
Airey's Inlet (G.filum);
Angleses (G.trifida);
Kooraweers Lakes, N of Camperdown (G.filum);
St. Helena, 8 km N of Yambuk (G.trifida);
12 km N of Port Csmpbell (G.trifida);
Lake E of Lsks Bolsc (G.filum);
Port Fsirey (G.filum).

Hesperilla chrysotricha leucosia Waterhouse Nelson (G-filum); 7 km SSW of Heywood (G-trifida).

I find it very difficult to separate the two aup-apecies of H.chryspiricha uaing the specimens I have bred. More examplea from moat of the localities are required. I believe there is a clinal variation so that in the area between Port Campbell and Portland there is a gradual transition from the eastern cyclospila to the western leucosia. The specimens from Rosabridge and north of Willaura appear to be cyclospila. I have only a single male from St. Helens and this appears closer to cyclospila.

In addition to the records above, I noted larvae of  $\underbrace{\text{H-chrystricha}}_{\text{H-chrystricha}}$  at a lake E of Lake Bolac ( $\underbrace{\text{G-filum}}_{\text{G-filum}}$ ), Port Fairey ( $\underbrace{\text{G-filum}}_{\text{G-filum}}$ ) and 4 km S of Hawkeadale ( $\underbrace{\text{G-trifida}}_{\text{C-filum}}$ ). As no adulta were reared from these localities I was unable to determine to which sub-apecies they belong.

### Oreisplanus perornatus (Kirby)

A colony was found on <u>G.sieberiana</u> in a swampy forest area 11 km WSW of Sandford. A amall number of both sexes were bred during the last week of October 1988. This record appears to extend the range of this species about 120 km SW from the Grampians colonies.

Ocybadistes walkeri sothis Waterhouse

I caught a single male at Castlemaine on 9 March 1988. This
was a new record for that area.

#### Hesperilla donnysa delos Waterhouse

This appears to be a widespread species which feeds on several apecies of <u>Gahnia</u>. All specimens were collected as pupae during lats September to mid-October 1989 and bred out in Melbourns from 27 October to 3 December, but with the majority in the first three weeks of November.

The pupae were collected at the following locations:

8 km NW of Peterborough (Gahnia radula);

Wilkin Reserve, 23 km SW of Casterton (G.radula);

11 km WSW of Sandford (G.sieberiana);

6 km S of Edenhope (G.radula);

6 km W of Dergholm (G.radula);

St. Helena flora reaerve, 8 km N of Yambuk (G-trifida and G-radula);

23 km S of Edenhope (G.trifida);

12 km N of Port Campbell (G.trifida);

Angleaea (G.trifida);

7 km SSW of Heywood (G.trifida).

#### Hesperilla flavescens flavescens Waterhouse

The principal reason for visiting the western part of Victoria in apring 1988 and autumn 1989 was to collect data for a report on this species for the Department of Conservation, Foresta and Lands. This report is in press. Pull details of this apecies will be included in that report, however the Department has allowed me to list the localities from which I recorded the species. These are as follow and cover colonies bresding only on G.filum:

White Lake, S of Douglas;

6 km N of Willaura;

Lakea north and aouth of Jacka Lake, W of Natimuk;

North Lake, N of Douglas:

N of Glenthompaon:

Grange Burn, E of Hamilton;

Olivera Lake, N of Natimuk:

Telfers Swamp, N of Natimuk;

Mitre Laks;

Lake S of Mitre (township);

Koorawsera Lakea, N of Camperdown;

Roaabridgs;

Lakea E of Lake Boga;

#### Paralucia aurifera (Blanchard)

On 14 January 1982 I caught one male and two females on Mt. Richmond and the next day I caught a single female in the Annya State Foreat, Heywood. Subsequently I netted two males in the Cobboboonee forest flying around <u>Bursaria spinosa</u> on 1 November 1988 and a further male at the aame site on 2 March 1989. I believe these specimens represent new records and appear to extend the range of the species from the Melbourne area.

#### Candalides hyacinthinus hyacinthinus (Semper)

One female was caught in the hills aouth of Chewton, near Castlemaine, on 15 November 1987 and one male and one female were caught at the same aite on 12 December 1987. On 1 November 1988 I caught one female in the Cobbobonee forest and on 22 February 1989 I caught two rather bluish males in the Black Range State Park, about 42 km south of Horsham.

#### Neolucia agricola agricola (Westwood)

Males and females in good condition were common flying with the 1.1uteus at Castlemaine on 15 November 1987. Occsaional apecimens were also seen on the hill behind the town on the same day.

#### Theclinesthes miskini miskini (T. P. Lucas)

A few very small specimens were taken flying over grass at Boyeo, NW of Nhill, on 1 October 1987.

#### Lampides boeticus (Linn.)

A single very worn male was caught on the hill behind Castlemaine on 15 November 1987.

#### Zizina labradus labradus (Godart)

One male was recorded in the hills south of Chewton on 15 November 1987. I recorded this species at Castlemaine on 12 December 1987; Lower Glenelg National Park 2 March 1989; Mt Richmond 2 March 1989; Crawford River Regional Park 4 March 1989.

# ATTRACTION OF SOME BUTTERFLIES TO COLORED OBJECTS

Kelvyn L. Dunn 1/7 James Street Dandenong 3175

It is well known that butterflies can be attracted to colored items, and in some species a behavioural response to color is marked. Use of color is required by butterflies for feeding, ovipositing, for courtship or aggression; and they have excellent color vision. The spectral range visible to butterflies extends from the ultraviolet through to red, fully encompassing the visible spectrum of humans as well as that of other insects. It is the broadest visible spectrum known in the animal kingdom (Silberglied 1984).

Many authors (Waterhouse 1932; Barrett & Burns 1951; Burns Rotherham 1969; D'Abrera 1971; McCubbin 1971; and Common Waterhouse 1981) have commented on the attraction of males of the metallic blue Papilio (Princeps) ulysses to similarly bright blue objects or wings of dead specimens. Waterhouse (1932), D'Abrera (1971) and Common & Waterhouse (1981) reported males detecting blue items at a distance of over one hundred feet, seventy feet thirty metres respectively. I once observed a male descend momentarily touch with its forelegs a scrap of metallic blue chocolate wrapper measuring about 10mm X 5mm (surface area = millimetres) which indicates that their i s particularly sensitive. In a recent report on the butterflies Cape Tribulation Queensland, Johnston et.al. (1985) mentioned yet another incident of this remarkable phenomenon. A similar behaviour is also known among the large electric blue Morpho species in South America (Smart 1975).

Aggressive investigation of blue objects by patrolling male P-ulysses is almost certainly a key behavioural response in maintaining a territory and for courtship. Male butterflies in general are usually the instigators in courtship attempts as females are initially passive or preoccupied with other activities (Silberglied 1984). It is therefore not unexpected that only male P-ulysses will respond to blue (D'Abrera 1971). The attraction to the wrapper mentioned previously is interesting since it involved a tactile response suggesting a courtship attempt by this male, despite the size of the object; the wrapper apparently being mistaken for a settled soliciting female.

Attraction of butterflies to other colors has also been reported. According to Common & Waterhouse (1981), females of P.ulysses are believed to be attracted to red. Waterhouse (1932) reported that females were "said to be attracted to a piece of red cloth". This incidence of attraction to red may have been in response to feeding requirements. Confirmation of such attraction is required. Silberglied (1984) considered orange and red wing markings to have potential signal value, particularly since other insects cannot see these colors. The European Vanessa urticae and Pieris brassicae will certainly respond to red (Common & Waterhouse 1981). Red has been demonstrated to have a signal function in Heliconius (Crane 1955).

Common & Waterhouse (1981) stated that <u>Ornithoptera (Troides)</u> priamus and <u>Ornichmondia</u> can be attracted to tethered or dead females which are predominantly sombre brown. Concerning the green and black males of <u>Orniamus euphorion</u>, Haugum & Low (1979) reported that they may occassionally be attracted to an old preserved male which is suddenly exposed, but do not generally investigate such baits. Dowling & Haines (1963) commented that the black and white <u>Polura sempronius</u> can be attracted to a white sheet left hanging on the clothes line. R.P.Mayo (in litt.) has observed a pale green triangle, <u>Graphium eurypylus lycaon</u>, being attracted to a bright blue object.

series of tests on South American butterflies, the red Heliconius erato was found to have a peak response in the green Philaethria dido and Siproeta stelenes a peak response in the green, and the irridescent blue Morpho peleides had a maximal S.L.Swihart in 1967 concluded that to blue. response butterflies visual system responds maximally to colors approximating the wing pigmentation of the species (Silberglied 1984).

I will also add the following personal observations. I have observed a male <u>Taractrocera papyria</u> attracted to a bright yellow plastic object on the ground which the insect may have mistaken for a large flower. In addition I have observed an attraction of <u>Ogyris otanes</u>, <u>Heteronympha merope</u> and <u>Pieris (Artogeia) rapae</u> to my parked vehicle — a canary yellow Torana. The male <u>Ogyris otanes</u> circled several times less than one metre above the roof for about ten seconds before disappearing into the undergrowth some 30 metres distant. A male <u>H.merope</u> returned several times to flutter along side the vehicle and when a door was opened the insect flew inside

and out again. It was difficult to deter the male and when disturbed, flew about ten metres distant before retuning once again. After some minutes the butterfly eventually lost interest. Once again this attraction to yellow may have been in response to feeding requirements. Finally I recently noted a momentary attraction of <u>Pieris (Artogeia) rapae</u> (sex undetermined) to the vehicle whilst waiting at an intersection.

This list is without doubt a very incomplete record of attraction of species to colored objects, but few such observations are ever recorded. I would encourage other readers to observe and record incidents of such behaviour while in the field.

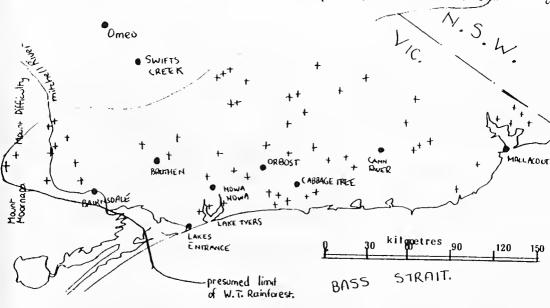
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# DISTRIBUTION OF WARM TEMPERATE RAINFOREST IN VICTORIA AND ITS IMPORTANCE FOR LEPIDOPTERA. J.L.BURNS 274 CHURCH RD TEMPLESTOWE.

Warm temperate rainforest is the SOUTHERLY EQUIVALENT to the popularised "Jungle" or TROPICAL RAINFOREST of equitorial regions. Warm temperate rainforest finds a foothold within the coastal belt of N.S.W. From here this warm temperate rainforest swings around Cape flowe takes a deep breath at Mallacoota just inside Victoria then in a desperate lunge to overcome the less benign southern elimate pushes through to the Victorian Riviera. Originally it had been 'shown the furtherest weat was the Mitchell river some 25km west of Lakes Entrance. Now a further extention of 25km has been achieved by David Cameron of the Victorian Conservation Forest and Lands Dep. Mount Moornapa and Mount Difficulty mark out the new marginal occurrence of warm temperate rainforest. Of course as is expected the latest fauna pockets are less diverse FLORI STICALLY. Notably the tropical swordgrass Galnia melanocarpa, which requires an effective canopy for suvival is present at these western limits. So too Lilly pilly upon which a butterfly dependent mistletoe grows. The extent of penetration of rainforest westward across Victoria is approximately 250 km as shown in the map below.



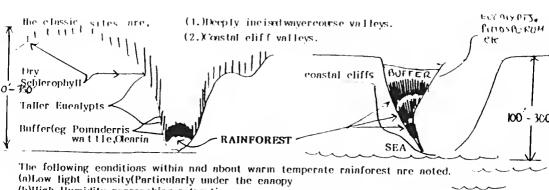
The total number of sites of w.t. rainforest has been measured in the hundreds. Additionally many sites contain multiple pockets or specific locations. For example within 10km of Lakes Entrance there are at least 35 pockets of w.t.rainforest (Several poskets have been obliterated by human agricultural intervention). The rainforest site at Mclwood(called Musk gully) actually encompasses 4 separate locations, the largest on the headwaters of Musk creek. Many sites are as yet undiscovered since much of Eastern Gippeland terrain is virgin thick bush on steep inclines (30° slope) and cannot be accessed easily by foot let alone vehicle.

These w.t.rainforest pockets are maintained meterologically by two factors working in harmony.(1) The FOIIN effect where air rising over the Great Divide and other hinterland mountains cools delivers its moisture(as rain) but in moving to lower altitudes experiences a greater temperature increase on descent than was lost on ascent over the mountains. The average daily maxima is 18.9°C while the minima is 9.8°C (Australia: Bureau of Meterology, 1976 for Bairnsdate)

(2) <u>In summer, proximity to the sea keeps temperatures lower than</u> more continental locations. Bairnsdale sometimes experiences June to August temperatures up to 24°C.

Despite these benign atmospheric conditions, w.t. rainforest in Eastern Gippsland only survives in the most protected of positions nearly always faeing south.

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(b)High Humidity approaching saturation. (e)Very constant ambient temperatutes. (d)No wind at ground level. Air remnias very still.

Because of this unique system of meteorology one expects and indeed discovers a remarkable diversity of rainforest florn. Mnny species are confined only to rninforest. Indeed several species of indigenous plants have their elosest relatives in the tropies. These include ephiphytic orehids lianes(elimbing vines)and even n palm(Cnhhage tree pnlm)

RARE BUT HAS BEEN OBSERVED SPECIES	FOODPLANT/S	COMMENTS
llesperilla Mnstersi/Mnsters skipper	Gahnin melanoearpa Possibly Cahnia elarkei Foxplants oeeur widely	Taken nt Jones ereek Pupa eollected at Lake Tyers
Heteronymphn Mirifien/Wonder brown	Notive gross growing runder ennopy only	Takea nt Mallneootn. Taken nt Nnrooma.N.S.W.
Delias Nysa Nysa/Nysa Jezabel	Kortinisëlin, japonjea (a minforestumistletoe)	Taken nenr Mt Kaye (Noorinbee north)
Delias Nigrinn/Common Jezabel	Meullerine eucalyptoides Meullerinn eellastroides Mistletoes fourd fairly widely in E.Gipsland.	Taken in East gippsland in several locations
Neriaa Bolina/Commoa eggfly Netroeoryne Repanda /Eastera flat	Many foodplants, several growing in E.Gippsland. Several foodplants. Adults in either rainforest or euenlypt forest.	nken in Cnnn River distret. Several foodplants Several foodplants not all the several food out terflyhns been observed in northen Gigpsland.
Xois Areton/Dinghy ring	Bindy grnss,other native grnsses.	Seen nenr Mnlineootn.
Hypocystn Metirius/Common brown ringle.	Blady grass,other native grasses.	Seen in southern N.S.W.
Hypocysta Euphemia/Rock ringlet	Common grasses.	Seen nenr Cnnn river.
ONLY ANECDOTAL EVIDENCE FOR SPECIES	PRESUMED OCCASIONAL COMMENTS	PRESENCE.
Graphium Sarpedon/Blue triaagle	Apparently observed by two	) Sephrhte observers

83

pearl white.

Elodinn Padusa /Nnrrow winged

Apparently observed inte summer/enrly autumn

flitting above the eanopy at Musk gully.

# POSSIBLE DISTRIBUTION PARTICULARLY IN FAR EAST(NO SIGHTINGS YET)

#### SPECIES

#### FOODPLANT

Erisichton Palmyra/Marbled blue Erisichton fineata/Hairy line blue Namehba berenice/Six line blue Hypoehrysops Digglesii/Diggles blue

Dendropthoe vitellina, present ia far east. Cupaniopsis/Alectryon species.

Cupaniopsis/Alectryon species.

Dendropthoe vitellina

Ogyris Zosinc/Purple azure. Muellerina Cellastroides., Dendropthoe vitteliaa. Cephrenes Augiades/Orange paliadart.Livistona australis. (Cnbbage tree palm)

Acrea Andromacha/Glasswing. Passiftora species(Wild passion vines)

This list of known and suspected butterfly species in East gippsland w.t.rainforest zones is by no means exhaustive as is the mention of several foodplant presences. Because there is very little local settlement and because of the itinerant and seasonal acture of species mentioned their presence would only be confirmed by long term observation. To date some species have only been observed once or twice in the whole area.

If the importnace of the classic TROPICAL RAINFORESTS is Queensland have been understated then certainly these precious warm temperate rainforests in the east have been largely overlooked by all but the enthusiast botanist and naturalist. The occasional bushwalker has also marvelled at the ecosystem above and below the eanopy. This unique area in fact shows the greatest promise for discovery of new species or sub-species of Lepidoptera (Also other forms of florn and fauna.) in Victoria. Warm temperate rain forest especially at this southern limit, promises to reveal a series of naswers to questions related to relationships between northern and southern Entomology. In particular the effect of significant climatic disturbance such as lee Ages and more recently the impending GREEN HOUSE EFFECT.

My thanks to Mr Bill Williams a dairy farmer in the Melwood area ,aear Bairasdale for over 30 years and keen observer around the Musk gully , Mitchell river rainforests. Thanks also to Maisy Byrne over 70 yrs and still maintaining weekly routine of recording local plant species about Lake tyers. Finally thanks to the local Bairnsdate Conservation Forests and Land Department, in particular Jim Reeves for providing Mr Bill peels thesis "A primary study of warm temperate rainforest around Lakes Entrance."

#### NEW RECORDS FOR AUSTRALIAN LEPIDOPTERA DISTRIBUTION. J.F. BURNS. Bedgegoode Avenue, Point Lonsdale, Vic.

The following select records originate from(a) 1985 round Anstralia trip(May, June) (b) 1989 Northern Queensland trip(May to July

1:.Sintaraeus pseudocassius, Plunbago or Zebra blue. Four Q, three G taken near the South Alligator River in the Kakadu National Park (permission given by the local aborigines) Species numerous. Range extension 1000km.

## 2. Catopsilia Pyranthe crokera, common migrant.

One specimen observed at Ceraldton late July 1985. This specimen was about to be netted when a young lad disrupted proceedings with "What ya doin Mr?". Range ext, 1,500 km.

3, Catopsilia Scylla etesia, orange migrant.

Normally regarded as ranging from Cape york to Townsville Many of both sexes seen near Bowen in little gully at the seaside at Abbot point. The international coal terminal is stationed here netually 20 miles north of Bowen.

At this location in a little elearing near jungle growth there appeared a veritable moving MASS of butterflies, of all sizes and description. (Temperature 18°)

4. Ogyris Meriodonalis (Amarytlis?)

Several seen resting on low foreshore bushes (4-6 ft) amongst sand dunes. One poor specimen taken, within sight of the ocean. Insects very quick and difficult to capture. Location Geraldton July 1985.

Kintu man Keith Hateley,78has a passioa for collecting the unusual. He developed his manin at 10 when he brought home insects, butterflies, birds, eggs and even a couple of snakes. Keith said his mother put her foot down over the snakes and insisted he put them out of the house or she would have his father kill them. But this did not deter the young lad even though over the years he was bitten a few times. He said he was not seared of snakes and had aever felt sick when bitten. Keith Hateley said his mother told him he was born at Murtoa on his birthday because she was there. He said because she was fond of children she decided to keep hiar, so young Keith the eldest of two boys was raised at MurtoaPrimary School. Keith said he didart like the teacher, so he asked his family whether they could move and being obliging, they made Kiata their home about 1928 on a euealyptus plant. When war broke out in 1939, Keith went off to fight. He said he won the war but a beck of a lot of blokes helped him. While on leave in 1943 Keith married."My wife got married the same day," he said. Even at war Keith continued to collect. He brought home many varied specimens of butterflies from Europe and Papua New Guinea, most of them still well preserved. After the war the llateleys bought a general store at Kiata, but Keith still made long treks into the Little Desert adding Aboriginal artifacts to his already huge collection of insects and butterflies."Many of my Aboriginal artifacts were found after the winds blew across the desert gradually uncovering interesting things," he said. His collection includes old stone axes, one tied to a wooden handle with possum hide grinding stones and many other tools used for food preparation. Many of Keith's finds are sent to museums to be studied by experts

During one expedition into the desert Keith came across an old mate who said he had something to show him."He was driving a Rover and dipped into the front seat, Pulling out this bag,he shook it and out fell a saake."My mate said he didn't know whether it was dangerous or not so he had put a safety pin between its upper and lower jaw hoping it wouldn't hurt him but knowing it would stop the beggar from biting him." Keith said. On another trip he and friend Charlie Braisen went looking for snakes to milk for serum but poor Charlie was bitten."Well being a fair way out and having an old ear, I threw Charlie into it and made one almighty dash to the hospital."I didn't worry about roads, I just took the shortest way over rough stock tracks and I swear to this day it saved Charlie's life because when he got to hospital there wasa't any venom left in Charlie. I had shaken it out on the way."Keith said another time he took out a party of field naturalists including overseas visitors. They were walking along a trail where there were a lot of emu droppings and Keith explained that he could get a lot of information about the emus from the different droppings."In one heap I told them I could tell what plants they had been eating another what height they were and yet another what soil and gravel they had been in,"and they believed me, he said drily. Keith said on some of his treks he would spend days in the bush, riding his poay up to 16 hours a day or sometimes hiking hundreds of miles, sleepig at the bottom of sandhills out of the wind, but always recording and collecting. Most days he worked in his store and took off at night especially during the breeding season, when he would gather eggs, record the date and later back track and weigh the chicks.

On oceasions Keith would take out a party of CWA members pointing out interesting things along the way. On one of these walks they eame across a goanna and Keith told the women it was a female to which one asked him how he knew! Thats easy, it has its mouth open all the time, "he laughed. Keith lateley is certainly an interesting person with a great sense of humour who still ventures into the desert or bush. He has shells from all around the world, insects by the hundreds including a rare selection and said he had even grown beans over a metre long. When asked what he did to relax he replied he went to a disco. Keith has sold many of his antiques, shell and other collections, but he still retains drawer upon drawer of butterflies, insects spiders and beetles. He is a man who will never be happy unless collecting the usual.

STORY: Merryne Terry. P.O. BOX 519 HORSHAM ,3400. ph 053 820181 053 826057.

# VICTORIAN ENTOMOLOGIST EXCURSION TO "GREENS BUSII", MORNINGTON PENINSULA SUNDAY 22nd OCTOBER

AH members and members friends wishing to attend the Society's coming exemsion are requested to make their way to the corner of PURVES RD and BROWNS RD where they meet at BALDRYS RD near (GREENS BUSH ,MORNINGTON PENINSULA.

See Map on following page. Access to Mornington Peninsula is via Frankston and then either NEPEAN HIGHWAY or MOCHOCIAC RD and then south to south west, to the mornington peninsula freeway, past Arthurs sent to Jettys rd at Rosebud. Then follow the map instructions.

Members are asked to meet at 10.30 nm.Within 30 minutes the group will move(drive) down Greens Rd(Southwards)About 2km south is the original heathland vegetation type originally widesprend on the peninsuln.We will also endeavour to locate the wetter areas of Greens bush which are quite famed for their unique Flora and Fauna.

Plense bring nn easily prepnred lunch as we will be "playing it by enr" where we pnuse for lunch. (The whole nren is rently quite magnificent so the lunch site is of little concern)

If the weather pattern on Friday 20th(Next general meeting) nppenrs very ominous and stormy then in decision will be made during the general meeting whether to postpone and to which future date.

#### TWO ADDITIONAL WATTLE PARK BUTTERFLIES.

Ian Faithfull, RMB 3263, Mnnsfield, Vietoria, 3722.

Braby and Berg(Vie Ent. 19(2):38-42) record eighteen butterfly species from wattle park Burwood, Victorin. I have seen a further two: Anaphaeis java was observed in the park on October 28th 1988 during a small seale migratory movement of the species to the west and north-west, and one or two Dannus elrysippus were seen on more than one oceasion. On these oceasions I was playing golf in about 1971 or 1972. This species is an uncommon variant to the suburbs of Melbourne. These observations bring the present list of butterflies recorded for wattle park to twenty species

#### Aeknowledgement.

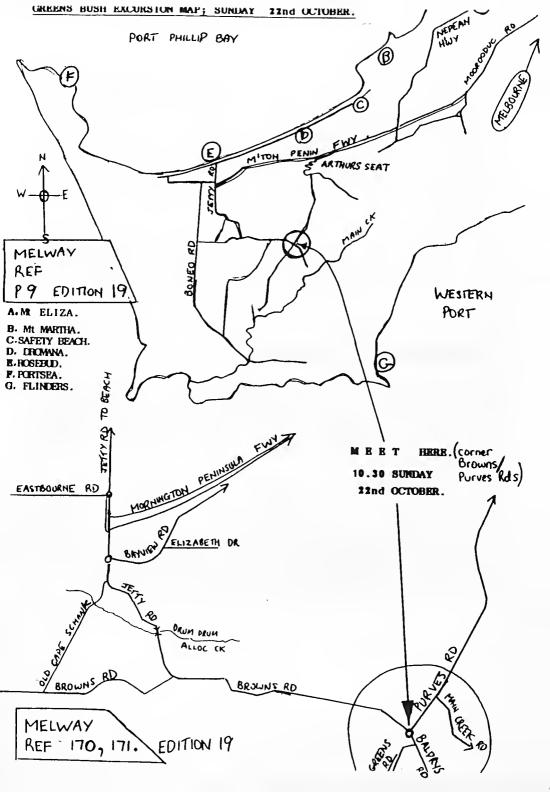
Thnnks to michael Brnby who reviewed a drnft of this note.

#### Reference.

Michnel F.Braby & Gordon N.Berg 1989."further notes on butterflies at Wattle Park, Burwood" Vie Ent 19(2):38-42

#### ADDITIONAL NOTE BY THIS EDITOR.

Nigel Quick indiented to me in 1987 that he had seen several ndults of the species Lucia limbaria, (Small copper) along Gardiners Creek. This water course arises from about Wattle Park and since the foodplant Oxalis corniculata (yellow wood sorrel) is present in the park one would expect this species there as well.



#### COMMENTS FROM THE EDITOR.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS MAGAZINE.

"VICTORIAN ENTOMOLOGIST" is a news bulletin—widely rend and indeed widely enjoyed by that small section of the community with interest in things insect.

The bulletin is fairly widely quoted on a wide range of topics, and finds contributions from a variety of securces both scientific and amateur. Indeed information contained in its issues is of extreme value both within the conservation study area and as a pure HISTORICAL RECORD of the Demographic and relative number changes within the insect ecosystems occurring over at least the previous 50 years.

All members would agree just how important this magazine is to themselves and to that section of the community scientifically minded.

Despite this satisfaction with the "VICTORIAN ENTOMOLOGIST" news bulletin i remain very surprised just how few different members provide regular articles. Perhaps eight scources provide contributions more than once per annum. A casual check will reveal that less than 15% of members contribute at all in a given year. So in fact the few rich own most of the property. Perhaps the generally held views are not being expressed or the range of topics discussed not varied to the degree practically possible with 100+ financial members.

O.K. ALL fellow members ,send me an article at least once per year.

#### EASY RULES TO FOLLOW

- 1 Any article no matter how small is gladly accepted.
- 2. Typed articles are desirable but hand written is fine.
- 3.Dont worry unduly about spelling errors or grammatical mistakes. I will endeavour to correct these without unduly altering the gist of your article.
- 4.Most observations or experiences in the field have merit beyond your own immediate discount. Other interested but absent parties could and will use most reports in meaningful context later on.

PLEASE RING ME ON 848 2441(AII) or 848 1888(BII) if a member wishes to contribute an article but is unsure of his or her self. I am only eager to reassure would be authors. Perhaps to help suggest a format or approach for members data.

# EXAMPLE OF SHORT NOTES USED AS FILLER TO COMPLETE INTEGRITY OF VIC ENT

New records for Victorian Lepidoptera. J.L. Burns 274 Church Rd ,Templestowe.

Mesodina halyzia(Halyzia skipper) re-discovered at Frankston North Food plant Patersonia fragilis(Short purple flag) This foodplant is the Australian equivalent to the introduced Iris grows in sandy areas,particularly coastal,forming a bulb Sep,Oct.Discovered in the North Frankston flora and fauna reserve, a magnificent heathland.

Two skippers have been found on Gahnia radula at South Mandurang (15km south of Bendigo). One skipper is Hesperilla donnysa, the other <u>may</u> be Hesperilla idothea.

A colony of Hypochrysops delicia has been located in Doncaster beside Middleborough Rd.

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COUNCILLORS -David Crosby, Julie Field, Peter Kelly, Pat Coupar, Mike Coupar.

#### DIARY OF COMING EVENTS.

FRIDAY 20th Oct - General meeting, Speaker., Phillip-Sutton, Flora and Fauna Act".

SUNDAY 22nd Oet -Exeursion to Greens bush.

FRIDAY 17th Nov - Council meeting (Boom 210) 8.00 pm.

FRIDAY 15th Dee- Last general meeting for year 1989.

DEC ? - Christmas party or get together.Suggestions ?



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